

area of contamination. Although none of the programs examined by the committee had such restrictions explicitly in place, they could easily be made a part of well or withdrawal permitting programs.

#### Zoning By-Laws

In each of the local programs reviewed, some form of zoning has been used to accomplish basic ground water protection objectives. Land use zoning employs local police powers to control a variety of activities under authority granted through state enabling legislation. Its primary impact is on areas that are undeveloped at the time of the rezoning; however, certain performance controls over specific activities such as waste water discharge or handling of toxic and hazardous materials can at present have an impact on newly developed land at the time of development and use.

**Zoning for Increased Lot Sizes** Lot size increases and housing density restrictions can be incorporated directly into existing zoning districts if the districts fall within a critical water protection area. This approach has been used to change lot sizes in a number of Long Island communities, with protection of ground water quality as one of several objectives.

The Southampton Township has recently amended its Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance to require minimum 5-acre lot sizes on 25,000 acres of Pine Barrens in that township. East Hampton has imposed similar zoning restrictions on approximately 5000 to 6000 acres of critical watershed land. In addition to upzoning substantial Pine Barrens areas to 1- and 2-acre lots, the town of Brookhaven has also rezoned a large portion of industrial land to residential use within the deep flow recharge zone.

Any move to increase lot sizes substantially tends to raise issues of property confiscation and exclusionary zoning. Several communities on Long Island have faced such challenges.

The town of Brookhaven, in a landmark case, successfully defended its 2-acre zoning to protect ground water quality. Because of the highly controversial nature of large-lot-size zoning, several communities on Cape Cod found it practical to separate zoning proposals for lot-size change from proposals for other controls within critical recharge areas.

On Long Island the Special Legislative Commission on Water Supply Needs of Long Island has recommended that towns provide for growth in less-sensitive areas by downzoning (increasing density). The commission has published a map of potential growth centers. In this way a balanced proposal for growth and preservation is presented.